The Peter Faneuil School was built to relieve an already over populated school system in 1910. At Joy Street and 32 S. Russell Street, Peter Faneuil enrolled students educated in three districts: fourth and fifth graders from the Washington School, Kindergarten through fifth grade from the Wells School, and first through fourth graders from the Wendell Phillips School. At the same time the Wells Annex School was built to meet the needs of a growing population, which in 1900 required at least fifteen school buildings in the West End alone.

In 1940 the Peter Faneuil School became a full time elementary school with a kindergarten, adult education classes, and manual training classes. It was also the headquarters of the Home and School Visiting Association. During redevelopment (1964) a group of Roxbury parents organized by the Citizens for the Boston Public Schools hired two buses to transport ninety-four children to empty seats at the Faneuil School rather than send their children to the sub-standard and hazardous Boardman School. The school committee continued to transfer more students, making the school 65% non-white in a predominantly white neighborhood, violating a state law on racial imbalance in public schools. But even with a large part of the student population bussed in, the enrollment was under 200, with 135 seats still available.

The Peter Faneuil School, the last school in the West End, was closed in 1975 and eventually the building was turned into housing in the early nineties.